

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 through 9 and 11 through 20 are pending in this application, of which 15 through 20 stand withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b). Claims 7 and 10 through 13, presumably intending claims 10 through 14 since claim 14 depends upon claim 13, were indicated to contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, the only remaining issue pivots about the patentability of claims 1 through 6, 8 and 9.

Claims 1, 7, 11 and 13 have been amended and claim 10 cancelled. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Specifically, the limitations of claim 10 have been incorporated into claim 1, and claims 7, 11 and 13 have been placed in independent form. Applicant submits that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue.

**Clarification of the Record**

In the second enumerated section on page 2 of the June 30, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner referred to the Information Disclosure Statement filed August 7, 2003, noting that the non-patent literature was not received. A supplemental IDS was subsequently filed submitting the non-patent literature. Applicant requests the Examiner to clarify the record by acknowledging receipt of the supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 19, 2005 and to provide an appropriately initialed copy of form PTO-1449 indicating consideration of the cited prior art.

**Claims 1 through 6, 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 for lack of novelty as evidenced by Okajima et al.**

This rejection is traversed. Indeed, this rejection has been rendered moot by incorporating the limitations of claim 10, indicated allowable, into claim 1, claims 2 through 6, 8 and 9 being dependent from claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 through 6, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 for lack of novelty as evidenced by Okajima et al. is solicited.

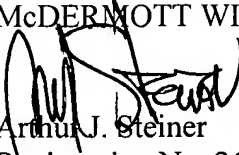
Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the Examiner's indication that claims 7 and 10 through 13 contain allowable subject matter. As previously pointed out, the limitations of claim 10, indicated allowable, have been incorporated into claim 1, claim 10 cancelled, and claims 7, 11 and 13 have been placed in independent form. Applicants submit that all active claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

**Application No.: 10/635,777**

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Arthur J. Steiner  
Registration No. 26,106

600 13<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3096  
Phone: 202.756.8000 AJS:MWE:ntb  
Facsimile: 202.756.8087  
Date: **September 8, 2005**

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